Blocks	Name of company (1ES) to whom Blocks	State Awarded
Joint Venture Exploration Programme (JVEP):		
RJ—ONJ—94/1	Reliance Industries, India	Rajasthan
JM—ONJ/1	Okland, U.S. A.-Software	Alliances, Rajasthan India
AA—ONJ/2	Tullow Oil Pic, Ireland	Assam/Mizoram/ Manipur

Extension of Kandla-Delhi Pipeline to Major Cities of Gujarat

1991. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER of be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gas Authority of India Limited has decided to lay a LPG pipeline from Kandla to Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the pipeline from Kandla would be extended to major cities of Gujarat also; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The Gas Authority of India Limited has proposed laying an LPG pipeline from Kandla to Loni via Delhi.

(b)Tap off points have been proposed in Gujarat to meet the requirements of Haryana and Palanpur.

(c) Does not arise.

Proposals for private funding of Oil Exploration

1992. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Govemment are coming up with new proposals to spur private funding for oil exploration;

(b) if so, the status thereof;

(c) whether ONGC would have any role in such a policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) Government has recently announced a new exploration licencing policy for the oil and gas sector. The salient features of this policy are:-

—Open availability of exploration acreages in addition to existing bidding rounds.

—ONGC and OIL to compete for obtaining exploration licences with other pvt. sector companies.

—ONGC and OIL to be provided a level playing field by providing the same fiscal and contract terms as available for private companies.

—Special fiscal package to encourage exploration in deep water and frontier areas.

—Freedom to contractors for marketing of crude oil and gas in the domestic market.

—No compulsory state participation through ONGC and OIL.